

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

THE SALE AND DETARIFFING OF)	
EMBEDDED CUSTOMER PREMISES)	ADMINISTRATIVE
EQUIPMENT)	CASE NO. 269
)	
PHASE IV)	

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that the parties indicated below shall file an original and 12 copies of the following information with the Commission, with a copy to all parties of record. Each copy of the data requested should be placed in a bound volume with each item tabbed. When a number of sheets are required for an item, each sheet should be appropriately indexed, for example, Item 1(a), Sheet 2 of 6. Include with each response the name of the witness who will be responsible for responding to questions relating to the information provided. Careful attention should be given to copied material to insure that it is legible.

The information requested is due no later than February 27, 1989. If the information cannot be provided by this date, a motion for an extension of time must be submitted stating the reason for the delay and the date by which the information can be furnished. The Commission will give due consideration to such motions.

Cincinnati Bell Telephone Company ("Cincinnati Bell")

1. Mr. Wedig, given that most if not all of the E911 customer premises equipment offered by vendors is not compatible with Cincinnati Bell requirements and given that these suppliers have no way to make their equipment compatible, do you really consider the market place to be competitive? If yes, please explain.

2. Mr. Wedig, with regard to your first answer on page 7, who are the vendors that you allude to? Do you know if any of this equipment had to be modified in order to be compatible?

3. Does Cincinnati Bell now offer or have any plans to offer a stand-alone E911 system in its service area?

Contel of Kentucky, Inc. ("Contel")

1. Please describe how Contel will offer data base services on a stand-alone basis, including a schematic diagram of the service configuration.

2. What type of equipment will Contel use to store the data base on-site? Will this equipment be available from vendors other than Contel?

3. Would Contel consider making information available to other vendors that would make their equipment compatible with Contel supplied data bases? If no, why not?

4. What vendor has Contel chosen as a source for E911 customer premises equipment? Why was this vendor chosen?

5. Who developed Contel's software? Does this company also manufacture E911 customer premises equipment?

6. Given that a customer does not use Contel compatible equipment and as a result may have to pay for extensive modifications to another vendor's equipment, would you not consider this a bottleneck for E911 service? If no, why not? Does not the compatibility aspect create a favorable market position for Contel?

7. With regard to your answer beginning at line 16 on page 7, what problems are you alluding to?

8. If other vendors were able to modify their equipment to be compatible with Contel's specifications, would you continue to take the position that E911 service should be a tariffed service? If yes, please explain.

GTE South Incorporated ("GTE South")

1. Please refer to the prefiled testimony of Vernon Williams at pages 3 and 7.

a. Does GTE South authorize the use of any answering position equipment other than GEC (Canada) equipment and minicomputers other than Hewlett Packard equipment for use with its E911 data base? If so, identify the alternative equipment.

b. Are the product offerings from the Bell companies, Positron, Computer Consoles, Inc., and EmergiTech, answering position equipment or minicomputer? If minicomputer, is the equipment compatible with GTE South's E911 data base without adaptation?

2. Mr. Williams, what is the full name of "GEC" you alluded to on line 2, page 7?

3. Mr. Williams, given that other vendors' E911 customer premises equipment is not compatible with GTE South's E911 software, would you say that the market is compatible? If yes, please explain.

4. Do you consider E911 software incompatibility a bottleneck? Please explain.

5. Mr. Williams, with regard to your last answer on page 7, please explain what choice a customer has relative to stand-alone equipment given the incompatibility problem.

South Central Bell Telephone Company ("South Central Bell")

1. Mr. Dorsch, with regard to your answer on page 5, please expand on the reasons the seven vendors' equipment was not compatible with South Central Bell E911 software. What do you mean by "it appears that there is more than one source of equipment" and does this mean that the equipment is compatible with South Central Bell E911 software?

2. Mr. Dorsch, do you know of any vendors other than AT&T who are able to support the E911 - SALI system? If yes, who? Have any companies modified their equipment for compatibility based on the interface specification supplied by South Central Bell?

3. Mr. Dorsch, with regard to your first answer on page 7, how can you characterize the marketplace as competitive if most of the vendors are precluded from the marketplace due to E911 software compatibility problems?

With regard to the same question, please explain how retariffing would lead to subsidizing of this equipment to the net detriment of the ratepayers.

4. Mr. Dorsch, please explain what benefit a ratepayer experiences as the result of a competitive market for E911 customer premises equipment? Does he realize any benefit if the local community is forced to purchase such equipment from a single vendor because of E911 software incompatibility? If yes, please explain.

5. Please describe the network conditions that must exist in order for South Central Bell to be able to provide E911 using an external, centralized data base ("centralized E911"). For instance, does this ability depend upon access to a specific type of switching equipment?

a. Please list the areas in which centralized E911 is available.

b. Do network conditions affect the availability of features, such as selective routing?

6. Please provide a sketch showing all of the equipment located on the customer's premises that is necessary in order to receive centralized E911 service. Include any network channel terminating equipment or multiplexing equipment.

a. Please indicate which equipment is offered under a regulated basis.

b. Provide a detailed description of the functions of the automatic number identification ("ANI") controller, and a brief description of the other equipment.

7. Please list all of the customers that presently have centralized E911 but are using ANI controllers provided by a source other than South Central Bell.

8. Please identify the types of network facilities that are used to connect E911 tandems to Public Safety Answering Points ("PSAPs"). For example, are regular Bl lines used or are special facilities, such as DS1 digital trunks, required?

9. Please reference the Testimony of John F. Dorsch.

a. On page 3 of the testimony there is a reference to "several data bases". In view of this reference, it is unclear whether this discussion pertains to centralized E911, stand-alone E911, or both. Please clarify to specify and describe each data base referred to, including a schematic diagram showing its operation.

b. On page 5 is a list of seven vendors who recently responded to a Request for Proposal. It was indicated that not all of these vendors' equipment is compatible. How many were actually compatible?

c. On page 5, it is indicated that the equipment that is compatible with SALI software/hardware is being discontinued by the manufacturer, making it necessary to change equipment. Will this new equipment be compatible with the old equipment? That is, will present customers who own their equipment be required to change to the new equipment in order to retain their SALI service?

d. On page 6, it is stated that: "South Central Bell makes available to equipment suppliers the published interface specifications for both E911 and E911-SALI customer premises

equipment." Does this mean that South Central Bell makes available sufficient specifications to enable a manufacturer to design equipment that could use the SALI software?

e. On page 7, it is stated that: "Any lowering of the current rates and charges, under a tariffed scenario, could lead to the subsidizing of this equipment to the net detriment of the rate payers."

(1) Does this mean that the current rates and charges are based on cost?

(2) Is it possible that the availability of economical E911 service could offset any detrimental effects due to subsidization of E911 equipment?

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 13th day of February, 1989.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


For the Commission

ATTEST:

Executive Director